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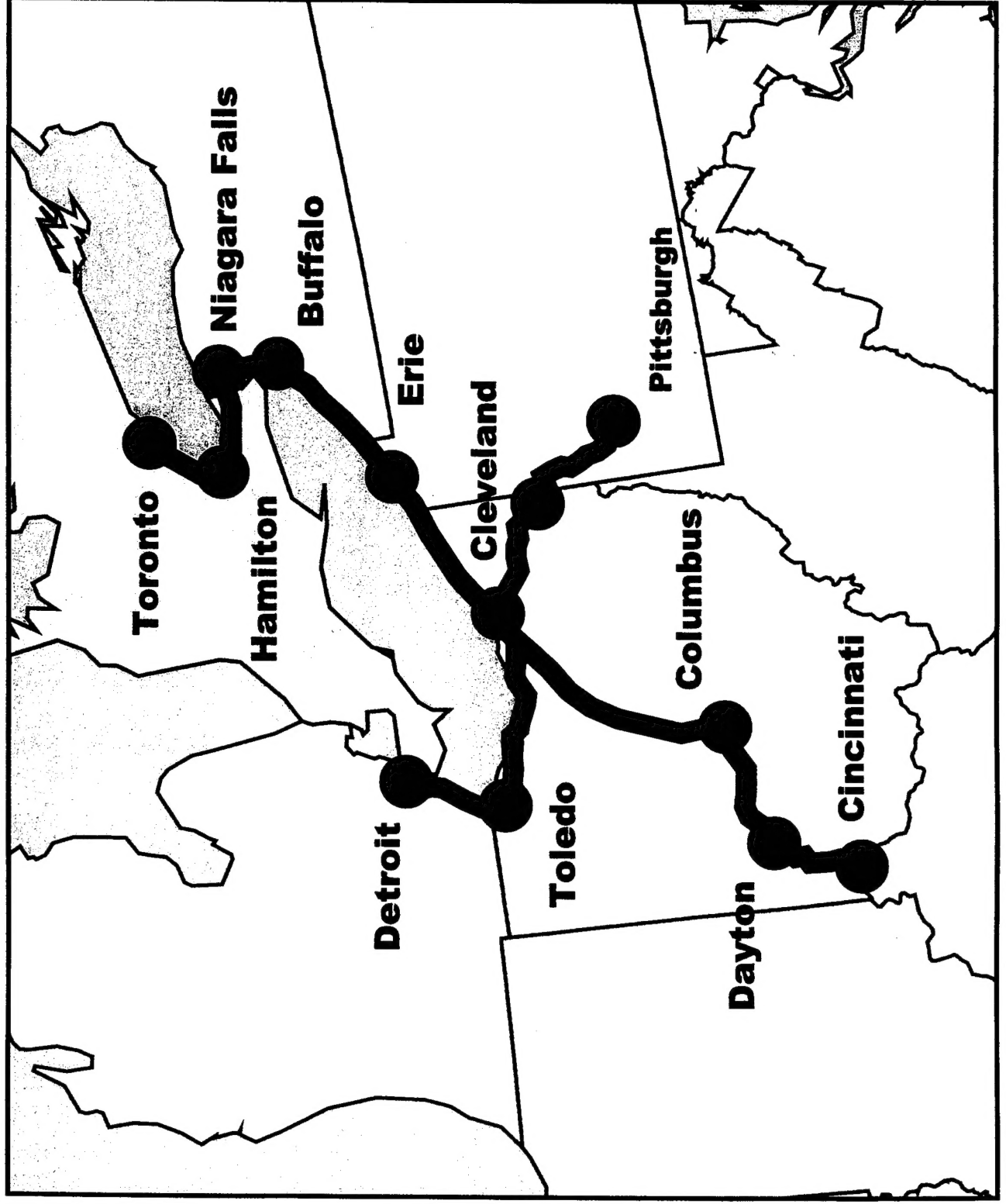
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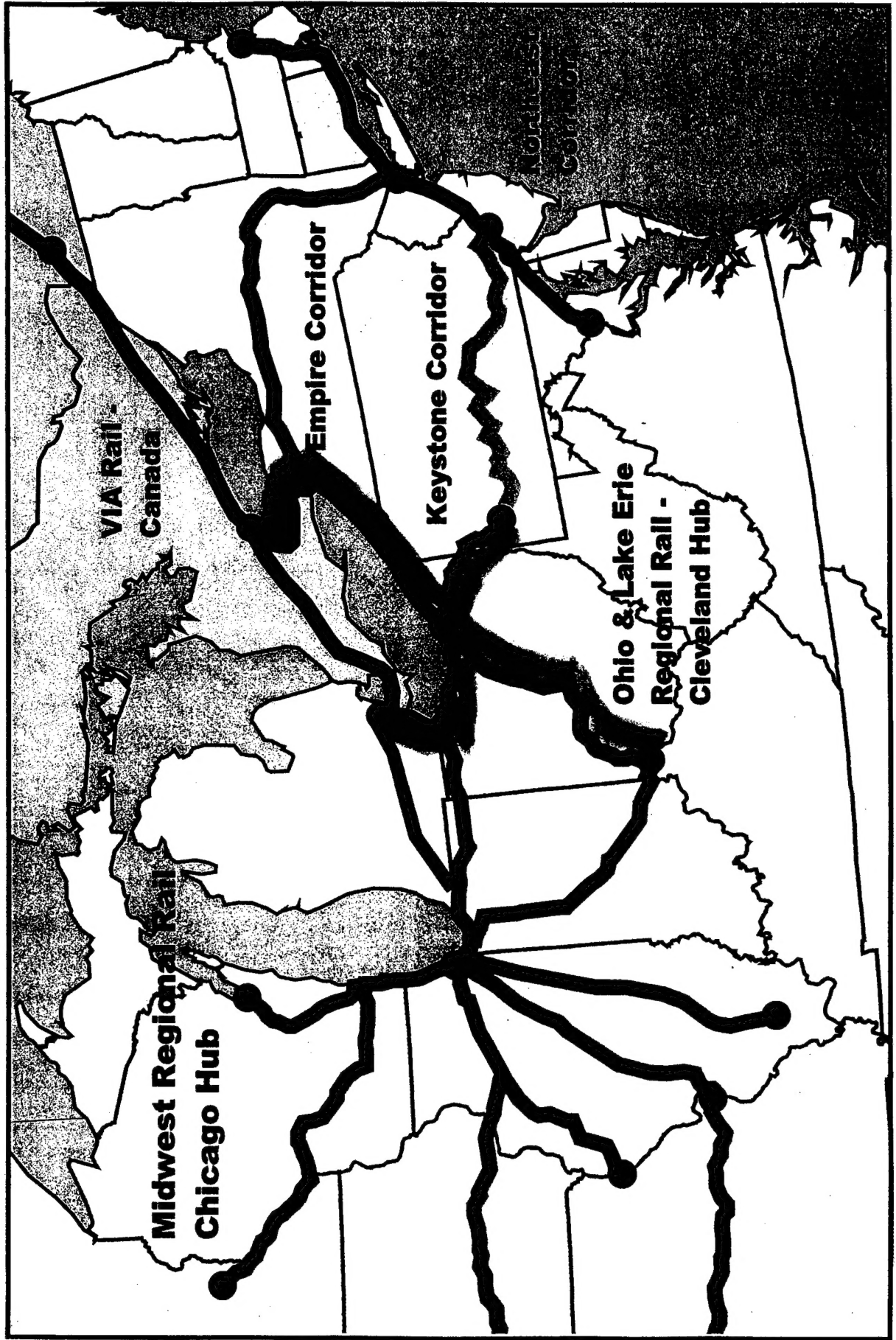
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# Ohio & Lake Erie Regional Rail Cleveland Hub



# Regional Rail Networks and Potential Connections



 NEW CLEVELAND HUB LINES



## Creating a Vision

The Midwest Regional Rail Initiative is a cooperative, multi-agency effort to develop an improved and expanded regional passenger rail system for the 21st century. It will feature increased operating speeds, additional train frequencies, modern technology and customer-friendly amenities with downtown-to-downtown connections to major Midwest urban centers.

## Forming the Partnership

Partners in the Midwest Regional Rail Initiative include the states of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Nebraska and Wisconsin, along with support from Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration.

# Midwest Regional Rail Initiative

### *Fulfilling the Vision* Highlights of the Proposed Regional System

- > A 3,000 mile rail network largely utilizing existing rail lines radiating from Chicago to nine Midwest states.
- > Modern technology allowing trains to safely travel at speeds up to 110 mph.
- > Projected to carry 9.6 million passengers annually when fully implemented in 2010.
- > Feeder bus lines will provide connectivity to high-speed rail service.
- > Will require \$4.1 billion in capital investment (80% federal, 20% state).
- > Is forecast to earn revenues sufficient to cover operating costs once fully operational.

### *Benefits for Travelers*

- > Offers a relaxing alternative to driving congested highways.
- > Travel times reduced by up to 30% from existing rail service.
- > Frequent, reliable service between major urban markets at a price competitive with other travel modes.
- > Modern equipment combined with a smorgasbord of amenities to attract business and leisure travelers.
- > Downtown-to-downtown connectivity.
- > Provides opportunities to enhance downtown development.
- > Offers economies-of-scale savings by allowing states to coordinate procurement of equipment.
- > Strengthens the Midwest economy by creating an estimated 2,000 new rail jobs, 4,000 temporary construction jobs and leveraging an additional \$2.6 billion in public/private investment.
- > Enhances public safety and the freight rail industry through improvements to rail infrastructure.





## Making a Sound Investment

- > The strong Midwest economy is placing tremendous demands on highway and airport systems.
- > Existing highway and air services often are not able to adequately provide the comfort and convenience that regional travelers desire.
- > High speed rail offers an opportunity to increase and enhance regional mobility by using existing transportation corridors.
- > Public interest in passenger rail is increasing.
- > High-speed passenger rail is an attractive and affordable travel option that encourages federal, state and local partnerships.

## Meeting the Challenges

- > Secure federal and state funding.
- > Improve rail infrastructure.
- > Integrate freight and passenger rail services.
- > Energize public support for high-speed rail.

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